

# Transforming Secondary Education in New Jersey



**Lucille E. Davy, Commissioner**  
**Willa Spicer, Deputy Commissioner**  
**Jay Doolan, Assistant Commissioner**

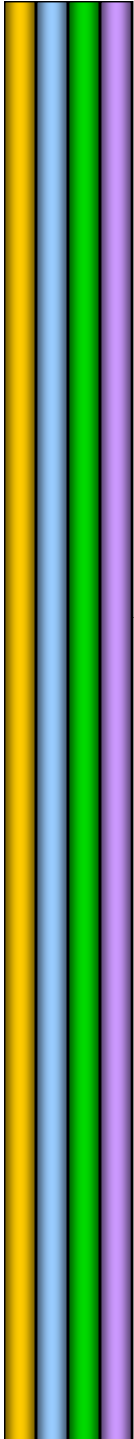
**New Jersey Department of Education**  
**October 1, 2, 24 and 27, 2008**



# Why Change?

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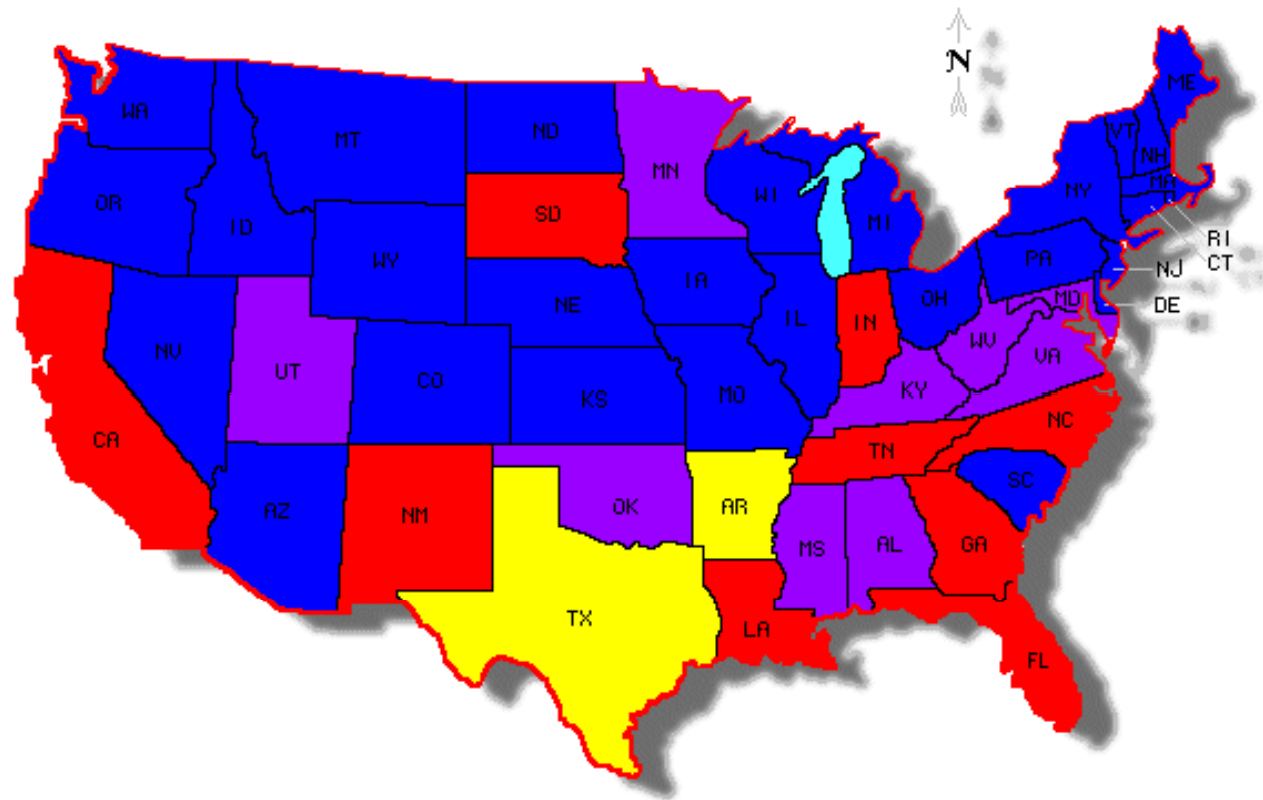
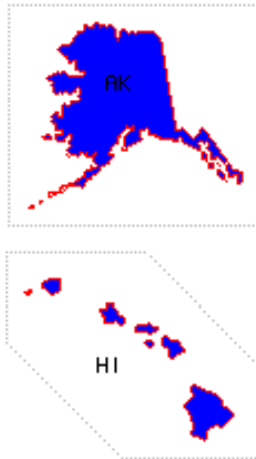
- Change of *system*, not course requirements
- Equity – access and opportunities
- Urgency
- Shift in social norms



What Change?

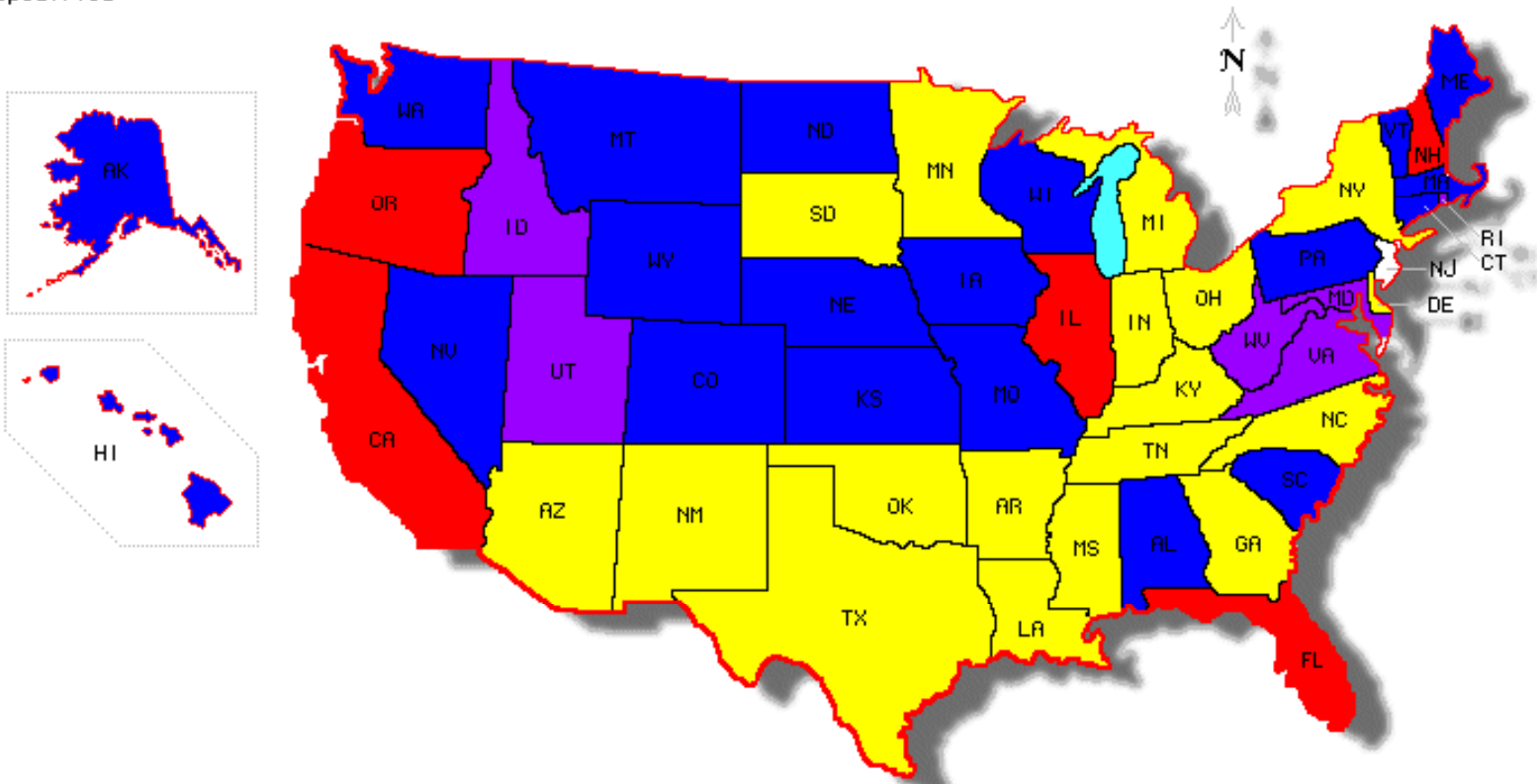
# What States Have Done: Math Requirements 2005

- - Algebra I
- - Geometry
- - Algebra II
- - Not Specified



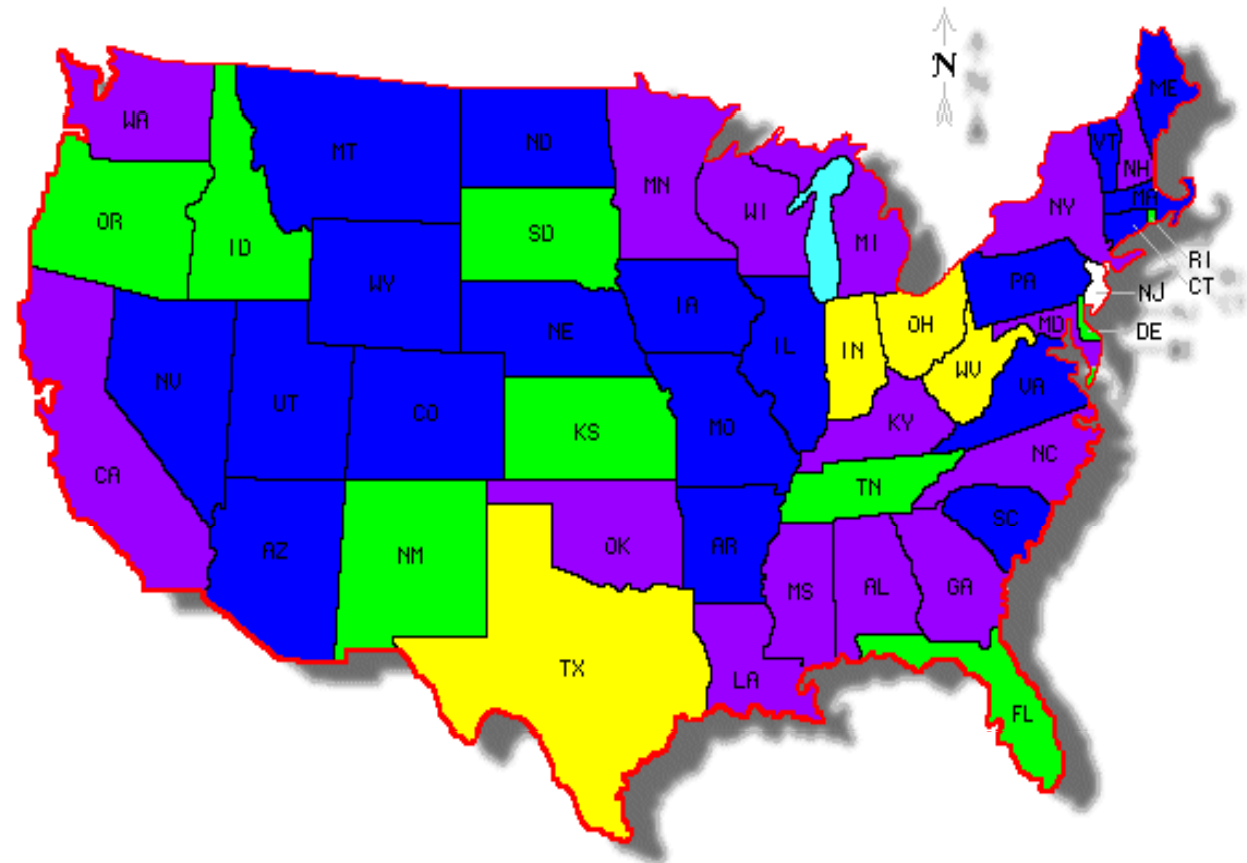
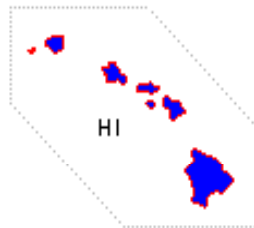
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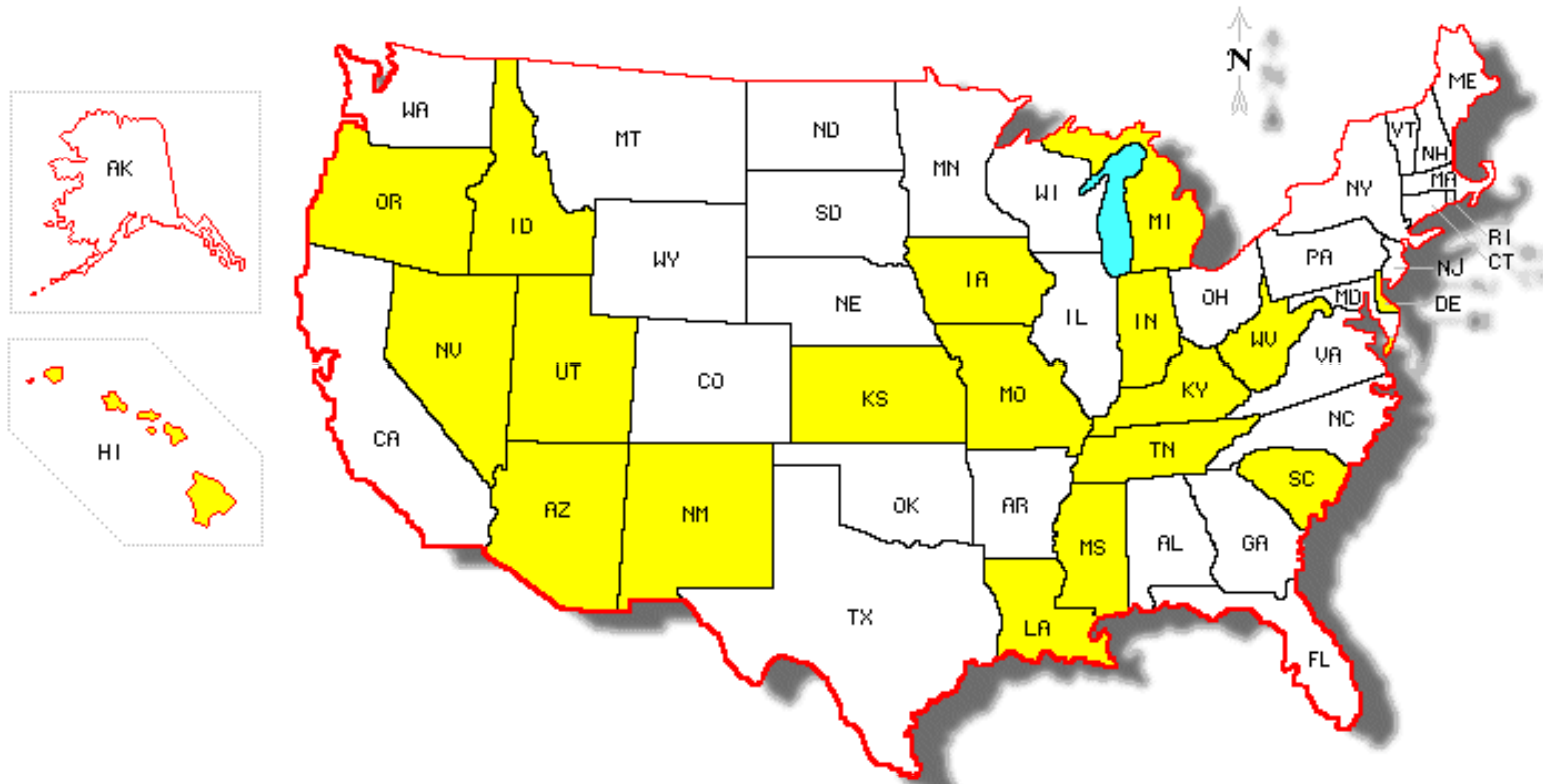
# What States Have Done: Science Requirements

- - Bio, Chem, & Physics
- - Bio & Physical Sci
- - Lab Sci - no content
- - No Specifications

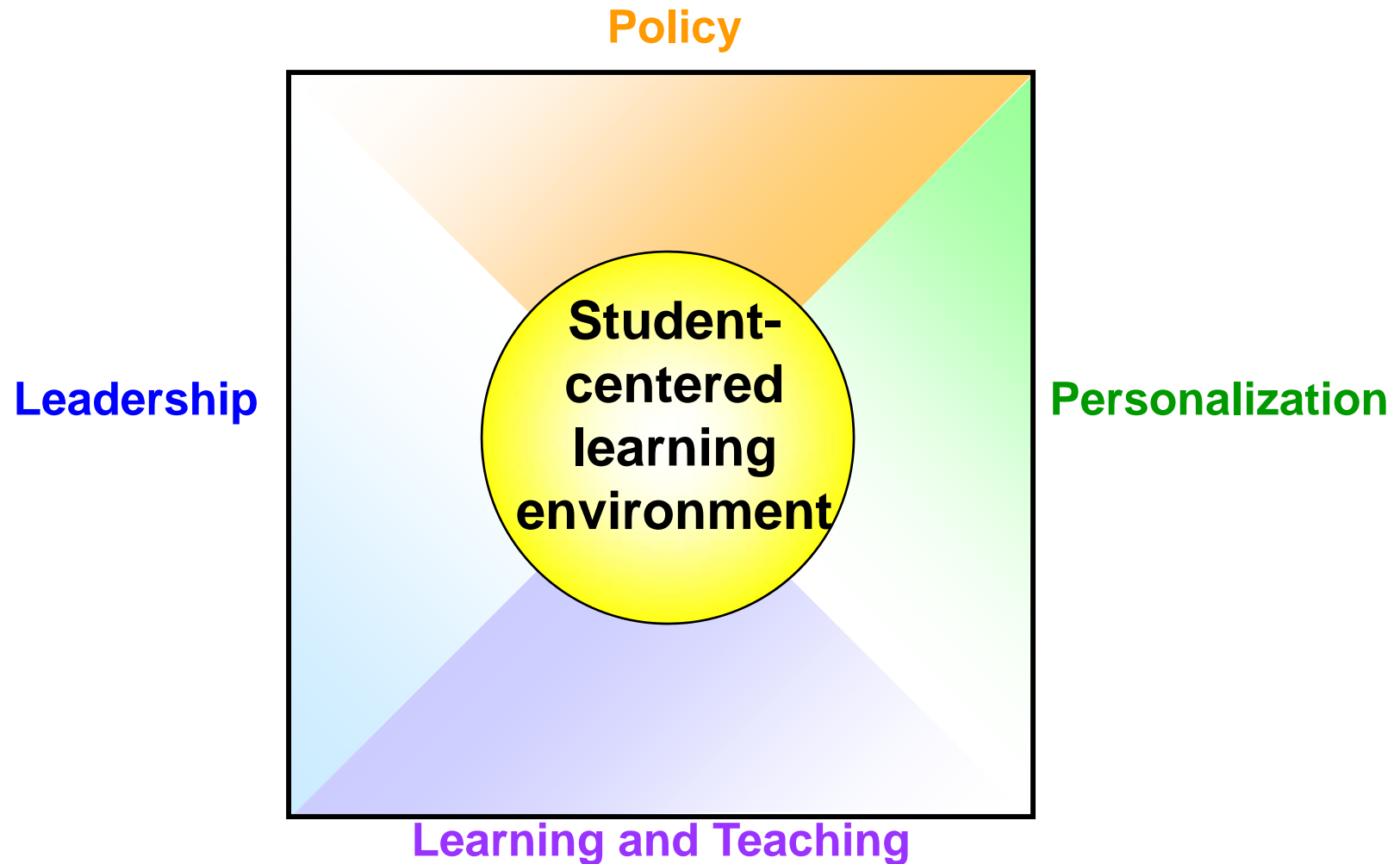


# What States Have Done: Personalized Learning Plan Requirements 2008

● - Require PSLP



# Essential Elements of Transformed Secondary Schools (Grades 6-12)





# How Do We Change?

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## NJDOE Work Plan

- Work across NJDOE Divisions
- Work with partners throughout the state
  - Higher Education
  - Business
  - Professional Organizations
- Work results in tangible products
  - Data, recommendations, case studies, best practices, models



# How Do We Change?

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## NJDOE Work Plan

### Learning and Teaching Task Forces:

- Expansion of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Content and Themes
- Integration of Technology into Curriculum
- Finding success for students who have not thrived in current school structures
- Expansion of STEM Education
- Adolescent Literacy
- Role of the Arts



# How Do We Change?

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## Phased-in Competency Testing

Phase I: Algebra I, Biology, LAL

Phase II: Geometry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Science

Phase III: Algebra II

Assessments can be administered when local school system determines students have mastered foundational knowledge



# Testing: Issues to be addressed

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- *What is the relationship between state assessments and course credit?*
- *What are the options for flexibility with the state assessment system?*
  - *Can we recognize industry, certification, and licensing tests for graduation?*
  - *Do students have to pass all tests offered?*
  - *Can students opt out?*
- *What types of alternative assessments are appropriate if a student does not pass?*



# How Do We Change?

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## Revise Policies

- Newly specified graduation requirements
- Updated assessment system
- Previous “Option 2”, now extended learning opportunities for all students
- Development of Personalized Student Learning Plans
- Replacing the current SRA with the Alternative High School Assessment (ASHA)



# Proposed Standards and Assessment Code

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- Curriculum includes interdisciplinary connections, 21<sup>st</sup> century themes and skills, specifies supporting resources
- Phased in ***Personalized Student Learning Plan*** for each secondary school student in grade 6-12

# Proposed Graduation Requirements:

120 credits	
<b>LAL</b>	20 credits aligned to grade 9-12 standards
<b>Math</b>	15 credits includes algebra I content (2008-2009 9 <sup>th</sup> grade), geometry content (2010-2011 9 <sup>th</sup> grade), and algebra II content (2012-2013 9 <sup>th</sup> grade)
<b>Science</b>	15 credits includes biology (2008-2009 9 <sup>th</sup> grade), chemistry and additional lab science (2010-2011 9 <sup>th</sup> grade)
<b>Social Studies</b>	15 credits includes histories and integrated civics, economics, geography, and global content
<b>Economics</b>	2.5 credits in financial, economic, business and entrepreneurial literacy (2010-2011 9 <sup>th</sup> grade)

# Proposed Graduation Requirements:

<b>Health/PE</b>	3.75 credits per year of enrollment*
<b>Visual &amp; Performing Arts</b>	5 credits*
<b>World Languages</b>	5 credits awarded upon proficiency
<b>Technological Literacy</b>	Integrated throughout all content areas*
<b>Career Education and Consumer, Family, and Life Skills or CTE</b>	5 credits*

\* = no change in requirement



# Proposed Graduation Requirements:

- Local Boards shall establish a process to approve:
  - **Personalized student learning opportunities**
  - **Awarding of credits based on completion of competency-based assessments**
  - **Awarding of credits through post-secondary learning opportunities**
- Successful completion of a district-approved online course
- Local attendance requirements
- Demonstration of proficiency on state assessments